

SENATE, No. 891

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires forms and materials for individuals with developmental disabilities to be available in languages other than English.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning certain forms and materials for individuals with
2 developmental disabilities and supplementing Titles 9 and 30 of
3 the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall **cause all**
9 forms, materials, and other relevant information concerning services
10 and supports available for, and provided to, persons with
11 developmental disabilities, as defined in section 3 of P.L.1977, c.82
12 (C.30:6D-3), under 21 years of age, to be printed and available in
13 English, Spanish, and Korean, and in any other language **which**
14 that is the primary language of at least 10 percent of the residents
15 **within an election district** of any county in this the State. The
16 commissioner shall also make this information available on the
17 department's website **make available in at least the five most**
18 common languages spoken in the State, inclusive of Spanish and
19 Korean: applications for services and supports that are available for
20 persons with developmental disabilities, as defined in section 3 of
21 P.L.1977, c.82 (C.30:6D-3); any forms that are to be used in
22 requesting the informed consent of an individual with a
23 developmental disability, or of the individual's guardian, with
24 respect to the sharing of health information; and other forms, upon
25 request, to the extent feasible.

26
27 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall **cause all**
28 forms, materials, and other relevant information concerning services
29 and supports available for, and provided to, persons with
30 developmental disabilities, as defined in section 3 of P.L.1977, c.82
31 (C.30:6D-3), to be printed and available in English, Spanish, and
32 Korean, and in any other language **which** that is the primary
33 language of at least 10 percent of the residents **within an election**
34 **district** of any county in this the State. The commissioner shall
35 also make this information available on the department's website **make available in at least the five most common languages spoken**
36 in the State, inclusive of Spanish and Korean: applications for
37 services and supports that are available for persons with
38 developmental disabilities, as defined in section 3 of P.L.1977, c.82
39 (C.30:6D-3); any forms that are to be used in requesting the
40 informed consent of an individual with a developmental disability,
41 or of the individual's guardian, with respect to the sharing of health
42 information; and other forms, upon request, to the extent feasible.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **thus** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 3. The Division of Developmental Disabilities shall consult
2 with the Office of New Americans in the Department of Human
3 Services, established pursuant to Executive Order No. 74 (2019), to
4 ensure service accessibility through cultural competency and
5 language access.

6
7 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the six month
8 following enactment.

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11 STATEMENT

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13 This bill removes language that would have required all forms,
14 materials, and other relevant information concerning services and
15 supports for individuals with developmental disabilities to be made
16 available in English, Spanish, Korean, and any other language that
17 is the primary language of at least 10 percent of the residents of the
18 State, and to be posted on the Internet websites of the Departments
19 of Children and Families and Human Services. The bill inserts new
20 language that provides, instead, for the Commissioners of Children
21 and Families and Human Services to make available in at least the
22 five most common languages spoken in the State, inclusive of
23 Spanish and Korean: applications for services and supports that are
24 available for persons with developmental disabilities; any forms
25 that are to be used in requesting the informed consent of an
26 individual with a developmental disability, or of the individual's
27 guardian, with respect to the sharing of health information; and
28 other forms, upon request, to the extent feasible. The bill also insert
29 a new provision requiring the Division of Developmental
30 Disabilities to consult with the Office of New Americans in the
31 Department of Human Services, established pursuant to Executive
32 Order No. 74 (2019), to ensure service accessibility through cultural
33 competency and language access.